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New Scandal: The Target of Obama's Grand Jury

By Michael Collins Piper

Both supporters and opponents of President Obama are concerned about negative political repercussions likely to arise from an ongoing high-level criminal investigation.

It is not widely known that the Obama administration's attorney general, Eric Holder, has upset some powerful people by launching a federal grand jury inquiry into wealthy Americans who have, according to a June 19 report from CNBC, "hidden money in Israel, many for generations" in violation of U.S. tax laws.

Two of Israel's biggest banks — Bank Leumi and Bank Hapoalim — are reportedly central to the inquiry and note that in 2008 the Israeli government's controlling interest in Leumi was purchased by Cerberus, the *Wall Street* syndicate run by Stephen Feinberg, described by Israel's *Ha'aretz* as "a New York Jew with a golden touch."

Perhaps not coincidentally, two top Republicans — former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and former Vice President Dan Quayle — have links to Cerberus. Rumsfeld was investing in Cerberus, which profited from the Iraq war Rumsfeld promoted, as far back as 2001, whereas Quayle is Feinberg's front man — the chairman of the board.

This controversial criminal investigation comes precisely when Obama's GOP opponent Mitt Romney — a close friend of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu — is waging an aggressive bid for the support in terms of campaign money and votes from wealthy American Jews.

Romney is not aiming for support from Forbes 400 billionaires, but from that second tier of multimillionaires who follow, a substantial percentage of whom are Jewish and quite influential in their respective states where polls show Obama has lost support in the traditionally Democratic Jewish base — perhaps enough to cost him key states in the Electoral College.

In a carefully crafted article, *The New York Times* of June 21 telegraphed the nature of Romney's fundraising, noting the GOP candidate is focusing on those interested in "Israel, education and energy." Driving home the point, the *Times* wrapped up the article by reiterating that "the campaign has organized much of its outreach around issues that energize contributors, like Israel," citing praise for Romney from Philip Rosen, "a Romney donor active in Jewish causes."

More subtly, the *Times* said Romney's targeted contributors are "mid-level millionaires," those who "run dry cleaning chains and small industrial companies" and "car dealership owners," realms where Jewish donors are prominent.

In case of any doubt about his loyalties, when the GOP candidate held a gathering for big donors at an exclusive retreat in Utah, visitors were addressed by columnist William Kristol. The well-known commentator is a longtime advocate for Romney's friend Netanyahu and longtime functionary of the Rupert Murdoch media empire bankrolled by the Rothschild family (whose own Lady Lynn de Rothschild is a fervent Obama critic and Romney supporter).

The prime mover behind the selection of Sarah Palin as John McCain's running mate in 2008, Kristol touts retiring Sen. Joe Lieberman (a close McCain friend) as the likely secretary of state in a Romney administration, replacing Hillary Clinton.

Those who favor a "muscular" American foreign policy and military ventures abroad — a far cry from the nationalism and non-interventionism advocated by Rep. Ron Paul — would be pleased by Lieberman at the State Department helm.

Michael Collins Piper is the author of ***Final Judgment***, the controversial "underground bestseller" documenting the collaboration of Israeli intelligence in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He is also the author of ***The New Babylon***, ***The High Priests of War***, ***The New Jerusalem: Zionist Power in America*** , ***The Judas Goats: The Enemy Within***, ***Dirty Secrets: Crime, Conspiracy & Cover-Up in the 20th Century, The GOLEM: Israel's Hell Bomb***, and ***Target: Traficant.*** These works can be found at America First Books and First Amendment Books: 1-888-699-NEWS. He has lectured on suppressed topics in places as diverse as Malaysia, Japan, Canada, Russia and Abu Dhabi.

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